

JANUARY 13, 1809.

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Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

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## A Bill,

Authorizing the president of the United States to grant permission to vessels to depart from the ports of the United States for the purpose of importing salt.

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1    Sec. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That*  
3 *from and after the passage of this act, during the continuance of*  
4 *the acts laying an embargo on all ships and vessels in the ports*  
5 *and harbours of the United States, it shall be lawful for the pre-*  
6 *sident of the United States to grant permission to the owner or*  
7 *owners of any registered or sea-letter vessel, to clear out in ballast,*  
8 *for any foreign port or place, from any port of the United States,*  
9 *for the purpose of importing salt into the United States, or the*  
10 *territories thereof, from such foreign port or place: Provided,*  
11 *That such person or persons shall have given bond, with suffi-*  
12 *ent security, in a sum equal to ten times the value of such vessel,*

13 that the said vessel shall not violate any of the provisions of the  
14 act laying an embargo on all ships and vessels in the ports and  
15 harbors of the United States, and the several acts supplementary  
16 thereto, except so far as they may be inconsistent with the per-  
17 mission hereby authorized to be granted.

1    Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if any ship or vessel,  
2 having given bond and having received permission as aforesaid,  
3 shall in anywise contravene any of the provisions of the embargo  
4 law, and the acts supplementary thereto, except so far as the  
5 same may be inconsistent with the permission authorized to be  
6 granted by the first section of this act; in addition to the forfei-  
7 ture of the penalty of the bond therein required to be given, such  
8 ship or vessel shall be wholly forfeited, together with the cargo  
9 found on board the same.